

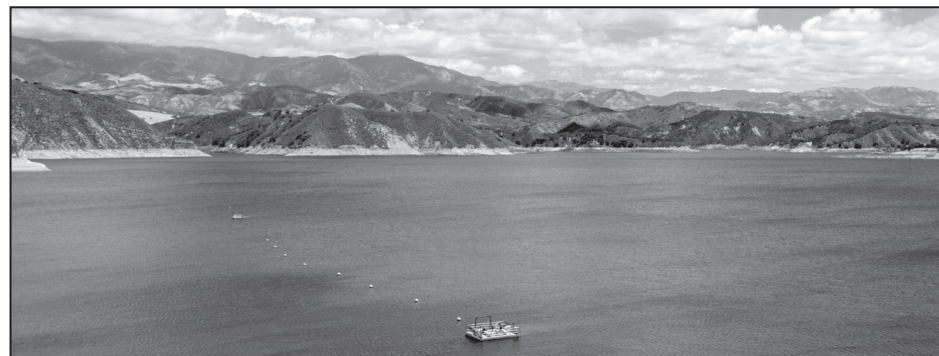
WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

2017 Annual Water Quality Report

The 2017 Water Quality Report is now available. Visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Water to view the report to learn more about the sources and quality of your drinking water.

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Lake Cachuma, the City's primary surface water supply, is currently at 40% of its capacity.

The City is in its seventh year of a persistent drought. Fortunately, with careful water planning and prudent direction from City Council, the City has a diverse water portfolio that will meet water customers' demands through 2020. Our drinking water supplies include surface water from Lake Cachuma and Gibraltar Reservoir; state water that is conveyed through Lake Cachuma; groundwater; and the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant, which began distributing drinking water in May 2017.

While Santa Barbara received some rain over the past winter and spring, it only amounted to 50% of normal annual rainfall, and Lake Cachuma remains at 40% of its capacity. Additionally, Gibraltar Reservoir has been impacted by ash and debris from the Thomas Fire, and after several years of prolonged groundwater pumping, there are limited groundwater reserves.

With the current drought, our water customers have done an excellent job of cutting back on their water use, at times exceeding our conservation goal of 30%, which has helped to preserve our available water supplies. Recent annual citywide water demands have consistently been below 10,000 acre-feet per year. This matches the City's water usage in 1958, when the population was only half of what it is today.

The City's desalination plant is permitted to produce up to 10,000 acre-feet per year (AFY), but is currently built to a capacity of 3,125 AFY, which is approximately 30% of the community's current annual water demands. If water supply conditions worsen, the City is positioned to consider expanding the plant to ensure there are adequate water supplies to continue to meet the community's water demands.

Water customers are being asked to continue their water conservation efforts. The City's Water Conservation Program offers free Water Checkups for efficiency recommendations as well as rebates, garden classes, instructional videos, and more. For more information, visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise or call (805) 564-5460.

FUNDS AWARDED FOR BIKE PATH CONSTRUCTION



The City was awarded money to construct the Las Positas/Modoc Off-Street Bike Path.

The California Transportation Commission recently awarded the City \$15 million to construct the Las Positas/Modoc Off-Street Bike Path. "This bike path project has been in the City's plans since 1974. It is a legacy project for our community and is also a benefit to Californians by completing a gap in the Pacific Coast Trail," said Public Works Director Rebecca J. Bjork.

The grant money will be used to construct 2.6 miles of Class I (multiuse) path along Las Positas and Modoc Roads for bicyclists, runners, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. The project will provide key connections to local and regional destinations, schools, parks, and the beach. The project begins along Modoc Road at the western City limit, traveling to Las Positas. It then continues south for approximately 1.6 miles along Las Positas Road to Cliff Drive and Hendry's Beach. The Las Positas Valley provides some of Santa Barbara's best open space, with Arroyo Burro Creek and the Mesa coastal hills framing the scenery. It has a regional park and a popular beach. But Las Positas is also one of the most uncomfortable places to walk or bike because of high roadway speeds. The project will provide the community a safe way to experience the scenic beauty and connect cyclists and pedestrians safely to work, school, and recreation.



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BE SAFE. DON'T USE YOUR PHONE WHILE DRIVING



Fifty four percent of California drivers report having been hit or nearly hit by a driver using their cell phone.

How many distracted drivers were cited in the City last year? According to the California Office of Traffic Safety, 54% of California drivers said they had been hit or nearly hit by a driver who was talking or texting on a cell phone.

Nationally, 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013. Engaging in visual-manual sub-tasks, such as reaching for a phone, dialing and texting, increases the risk of getting into a crash by three times. Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded.

Last year, 789 in the City were granted the opportunity to change behavior prior to something far more sinister happening. Three hundred citations were written in the City for California Vehicle Code §23123, which prohibits all drivers from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle, while 489 citations were written for California Vehicle Code §23123.5 which prohibits all drivers from texting while operating a motor vehicle. Save your life and the life of others—don't use your phone while driving.

LEARN TO BE BEE-FRIENDLY



The City celebrates Pollinator Week with pollinator facts and a webpage with information on becoming more pollinator-friendly.

Santa Barbara is an official Bee City USA, so we're celebrating Pollinator Week this week by posting pollinator facts on social media and providing information about how all of us can become more bee- and pollinator-friendly in our daily lives.

Did you know that pollinators are often keystone species, meaning that they are critical to an ecosystem. The work of pollinators ensures full harvests of crops and contributes to healthy plants everywhere.

- An estimated 1/3 of all foods and beverages is delivered by pollinators.
- In the U.S., pollination produces nearly \$20 billion worth of products annually.
- About 75% of all flowering plant species need the help of animals to move their heavy pollen grains from plant to plant for fertilization.
- About 1,000 of all pollinators are vertebrates such as birds, bats, and small mammals.
- Most pollinators (about 200,000 species) are beneficial insects such as flies, beetles, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths, and bees.

Please follow the Parks and Recreation Department on Facebook at [facebook.com/sbparksandrec](https://www.facebook.com/sbparksandrec) to find out more!

Visit our new bee and pollinator information pages (including what to do if you find bees in the public right-of-way) at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Bees](https://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Bees).



\$150 REBATE

WASH, RINSE, REBATE...

HIGH EFFICIENCY WASHING MACHINE

\$150 REBATE





Let's Save Together
waterwise
City of Santa Barbara

[SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates](https://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates)

YOUR MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE





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